

Overholt, William H - These 5 men were brothers. There was another brother enlisted but do not know his name.

Patterson, J. H. - Clerk of Circuit Court after the war.

Poage, Henry Moffett - A Leiu. Died near Warrenton, Va. Shot down as he topped a ^{small} hill.

Poage, William A. - Lost his life while on a scout.

Price, Andrew G. - Taken prisoner at Hanover Junction. Died at Point Lookout July 6, 64

Price, James Henry -

Price, William T. -

Price, John Calvin -

Price, J. Woods -

Price, Samuel D. -

* In the spring of 1864 the Union troops called at the home of James Atlee Price. The first intimation that the family had was the sound of the wooden latch of the gate at the road, falling. They looked out and the whole country from the house to the bridge was blue. There were Confederate soldiers in uniform in the house; James H. Price, John Calvin Price, J. Woods Price and David Kennison. They ran. Kennison fell down and was captured and sent to prison. Woods Price was pursued to the big sycamore at the mouth of Kees Run, he dodged behind this tree and as his pursuer came around the tree Price shot and cut a furrow across his brow, whereupon the Union soldier went back and Price escaped. J. Calvin Price and James H. Price took to the river. James Price got across, but Calvin Price was shot in the thigh and it looked like he might drown. James returned to assist him, but before he could reach the wounded man, the Union soldier who had fired the shot, went into the water and brought out his gun. Whereupon Calvin Price was left at home to recover and James was made a prisoner and spent the rest of the war in an Ohio prison. He was turned out at the end of the war without a cent in his pocket. He walked the hundreds of miles home. That cured him of his traveling. He marched, counter-marched, and endured all kinds of hardships, but was never called upon to fire a shot.

Spoddell, Warwick - killed at Cold Harbor

Spoddell, Aaron -

Yeager, William Asbury - He was in the engagement at Winchester and when the battle was over 17 bullet holes were found in his clothing but he did not get a scratch. Took part in all the battles of his company, except Gettysburg, Was in the hospital at that time. Killed at Hatches Run Feb. 6, 1865.

Yeager, H. A. - Took part in all the engagements except when wounded.

Yeager, Peter D. - Prisoner at Camp Chase. Released July 1865. He in a large measure restored Travelers' Repose from the devastation of war.

Yeager, John - Selected by Col Rust of the 3rd Arkansas Reg. to go with him, as a guide into the Federal fortifications at Whites Top of Cheat. They arrived, got into the camp, learned the position of the defense, but the attack was not made because of high water.

Young, George -

Warwick, James W. Jr., - Supt. of schools after the war.

Warwick, John Andrew - *From 1926 Blue Book. All other taken from History of Pocahontas
- Price except for 2 or 3 from Pocahontas Times.

Point of interest

Chapter 4
Pocahontas Co.

Juanita S. Dilley
Clover Lick, W. Va.
Feb. 9, 1940

CIVIL WAR PERIOD

(I'm giving this history of Travellers Repose because so much fighting or marching of soldiers took place in this section of Pocahontas)

About 150 years ago John Yeager came to the upper Greenbrier Valley from Pennsylvania near Lancaster. He settled on the East Fork of Greenbrier River at Travellers Repose. He took many thousands of acres in what was known as the German settlement. Among the neighbors were John Slaven, Abraham Burner, Moses Houchin, and Abraham Arbogast.

One of the sons of John Yeager, who married a Hull, was Andrew who married Elizabeth Dilley. Along in the 1820's Andrew came into the homestead, Travellers Repose. In 1861 he refuged to Highland County, and the tavern house was burned by the Federal troops from Indiana regiments under General Milroy, camped on Shavers Cheat Mountain. The same year Andrew Yeager died of typhoid fever in Highland County. Peter D. Yeager, the son of Andrew, was a Confederate soldier. He spent a long time as a prisoner of war at Camp Chase, Ohio. Upon his return from prison he restored in a large measure the pioneer home and tavern.

About fifteen years ago Brown B. Beard, a great-great grandson of John Yeager the pioneer, added much in the way of improvements and modern conveniences to the restored house.

From earliest times Travellers Repose was a popular stopping place for the traveling public but it came into its own as a regular stage coach stop and tavern house upon the completion of the Staunton and Parkersburg Turnpike by Col. Claude Crozet late of Napoleon's armies, in the late 1830's and early 1840's. He was one of many Napoleon soldiers who refuged to America after Waterloo, and was a master road builder. This turnpike was one of the heavily traveled thoroughfares from east to west; used by emigrants going west in their wagons; by statesmen and politicians from the west to and from Washington; citizens from

to the northwest to and from Richmond. Travellers Repose was a regular stop, and ever a popular one, for its food and hospitality.

What an interesting thing the old tavern register would now be with its autographs of those who stopped there in stage coach days. But it is supposed the old book went up in flames when the house was burned during the war. Senator Henry Clay was a familiar figure in the neighborhood. He was a special friend of Col John Slaven whose plantation was where Durbin now stands, a few miles below Travellers Repose. The senator maintained a hunting camp in "The Narrows" between Durbin and the Tannery at Frank. Governor Joe Johnson and Stonewall Jackson also traveled the Staunton & Parkersburg Pike and often stopped over at the home of John Slaven to enjoy trout and venison. During the war, his home was also burned and the family's happy life came to an end.

Ambrose Bierce, the bitter writer, was a boy soldier with Milroy on Cheat Mountain. He writes of some of his experiences in this section during the war. Other writers familiar with Travellers Repose were Porter Creyon and Hergensheimer. It is the land of "Tol'able David" a one time popular moving picture.

The Confederate war camp, Bartown, was at Travelers Repose. One fall day in 1861 Milroy brought his army down from Shavers Cheat Mountain to fight an artillery duel with Camp Bartow, and then marched them back again. Old soldiers said this battle was a record so far as their experience of four years of real war went, in that more powder was burned for the number of men killed.

Two months later, General Milroy was repulsed with heavy losses when he attacked General Edward Jackson at Camp Allegheny. This battle was six miles from Travelers Repose but still on Yeager land.

General Averill passed through Travelers Repose with his army in his sweep down the Greenbrier Valley in the fall of 1863, to fight the Battle of Droop Mountain.

When the railroads put the stage coach out of business, for a generation the once well traveled east and west highway by Travelers Repose became a local road. Then came the railroad up the Greenbrier to cause industrial centers and towns to

develop near the old stage stop.

The Postoffice Department in 1856 wrote a letter of complaint to Jim Trotter, stage coach driver, over his delay in getting the mail across Cheat Mountain west of Travelers Repose. His terse reply was in these words: If the gable end of hell would blow out and rain fire and brimstone for forty days and forty nights it would not be sufficient to melt the snow drifts on Cheat Mountain.

Louise McNeill has written poems about this incident and about Travellers Repose. I quote them here merely to show how well she describes real incidents in her native Pocahontas. These of course could not be published with out permission.

JED KANE

The Gauley mail was overdue
When Jed who was to drive it through
Cheat Mountain Pass to Staunton Run
Got special word from Washington
In which a postal clerk inquired
Why Mr. Kane who had been hired
To drive the course at post haste rate
Was not in yet, though three months late.

And now on a high-glaze marble wall
In the postal building Jed ^AKanes scrawl
Hangs framed in silver: "Respected Sir,
You ask the reason and this be her-
If the gable end blew out of hell
Straight into the drifts of a snow that fell
Last fall on the ram's horn point of Cheat
It would take till Easter for brimstone heat.
To melt a horsepath, So I remain

Inventory of Materials

Pocahontas

Topic: Point of interest W. Va.

The Battle of Drop Mountain

Title:

Author: Newspaper Clipping
Dec. 27, 1935

Date submitted: _____ Length: _____ words

Status:

Editor: _____

Contents:

Historic battlefield converted into State Park.

A vivid description of Drop Mt Battle from pen of Andrew Price

Source:

Consultant:

Reliability:

File: _____

Folder: _____

Vivid Description of Droop Mountain Battle Reprinted From Pen of Andrew Price

Historic Battlefield Is Converted Into State Park

On a bleak day last November, State and National officials together with a large group of State citizens gathered at the Droop Mountain battlefield in Pocahontas County—72 years after Union forces routed the Confederate cavalry from the field—to dedicate the site of that conflict as a State park.

Private George Alderson of the 14th Virginia Cavalry went to the celebration from the hills of Nicholas County to accept the new State park as a memorial to his comrades who fell there. The boys in blue were absent. The last member of the G. A. R. in the Pocahontas section died last March so a World War veteran accepted the flag in their behalf.

This dedication—and renewed interest in the site together with its historical background—brings to mind the colorful description of the famous Droop Mountain encounter as chronicled by the late Andrew Price, famed State newspaperman and one of the first honored with a place in the West Virginia Publishers' Hall of Fame. Price was for many years editor of the Pocahontas Times, now edited by his brother, Cal Price.

His narrative of the battle follows:

The campaign in 1863, in West Virginia, on the Federal side, was under the command of Gen. W. W. Averell, of the Fourth Separate Brigade. He had at his disposal some five thousand troops and he was opposed to an army of about the same strength. The campaign in the mountains has been ignored by historians generally, the broken country of high hills and narrow valleys prevented the maneuvering of large bodies of troops, but it was no less important than the vast armies on the tidewater plains, for West Virginia was a barrier between the North and the South that the government must hold at all hazards. The Federal forces had met with disaster until Averell took charge in the spring of 1863. He was a New Yorker, a West Pointer, country-bred and efficient. He had won his spurs in subduing the Kiowa nation. He could move his troops faster than any other commander, unless it was "Stonewall" Jackson, of the Confederate army.

When he came to West Virginia, the first thing he did was to mount his infantry upon horses and after that he was able to move his army with great rapidity and he moved up and down the long valleys on either side of the Allegheny at will. He was in many engagements, but the great battle was that of Droop

Mountain, thirty-four miles from Lewisburg and that if he drove his enemy forward that day that they would get by Lewisburg before Duffie would have arrived from Kanawha.

On Thursday then about all that was done was to try to go around the Confederates and cut them off from the mountain, but Jackson beat them to it and left the Levels to be occupied by Averell.

Stays With Confederates

Averell made his headquarters camp along the hill on the western edge of the Levels about where Gen. M. J. McNeal, of the Confederate veterans, resides. Averell, himself, was the guest of Col. Paul McNeal that night, and the whole community was Confederate but all who met him were charmed by him.

When the Levels was a lake Droop Mountain was the dam. The Greenbrier forced a passage through along the extreme eastern side and still plunges through the pass. Last summer the road commission blocked this road just as the army did in '63, and we who desired to march south had to either go down the river road on the right or to the left and climb the ridge and swing round the circle by way of Lobella and climb up the road that intersects the pike on top of the mountain back of the battlefield. They call these Hobson Choice detours these days.

Averell Detoured

So Averell detoured. Like "Stonewall" Jackson, he was an early riser, and he got his troops into position before daylight. Here is the way he laid out his attack:

He sent the 14th Pennsylvania to the left and they took up their stand near the Locust Creek bridge and appeared to be ready to charge up the mountain. Keeper's battery was placed on the high ground above Beard's mill and commenced to fire on the batteries on top of the mountain. Several families living in the low place formed by Locust creek stayed there all day under the artillery fire. Ewing's battery was placed to the left pike between Hillsboro and the foot of Droop Mountain. Gibson's battallion and the 10th West Virginia were held in or near Hillsboro on the pike. The 2nd, 3rd, and 8th West Virginia regiments were placed to the right of the pike about the Renick place, out of sight of the Confederates on top of the mountain. The 28th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and one company of the 14th Pennsylvania, in all 1,175 men, were sent by the long and wide detour to the right by Lobella, and while they started long before daylight they did not reach the battlefield until 1:45 p. m. In the meantime a great deal of cannon firing had been going on.

I imagine that something occurred during the slow morning hours that caused Averell the gravest apprehension. He had not attacked the day before for good and sufficient reasons, but about 9 o'clock the Confederates announced by cheers, and by band music, and by the display of battle flags, that Major General Echols had brought his army up and that the forces were equal and that the Confederates held a safe position.

I have given the position of the Federal troops, occupying a full half circle to the north of the battlefield. Here is the way the Confederates were stationed:

Gives Locations

On the river road to Greenbrier: Edgar's battalion. On the farmland on the brow of the mountain where the battle was fought: 22nd Virginia cavalry, Col. George Patton; 19th Virginia cavalry, Col. W. P. Thompson; 20th Virginia Cavalry, Col. W. W. Arnett; 14th Virginia cavalry, Col. James Cochran; Derrick's battalion; Jackson's batteries. On the Lobelia-Jacob road: Nobody. The failure to guard the road leading in from the rear cost the Confederates the battle. This oversight has never been explained.

At 1:45 p. m. the flanking party arrived and came through the woods firing as they came and the rifle balls fell everywhere. It is said to have been one of the most sudden and most fearful fires that men were ever subject to. In about an hour, the Confederates were in full flight.

As soon as Averell heard his flanking party commence to fire he moved the 2nd, 3rd, and 8th regiments obliquely to the right up the mountain. The horses had been left at the foot of the mountain. They came out on top of the mountain exactly on the left of the flanking army and together they advanced on the breastworks of the Confederates and the fight was over in a few minutes, and the army in full retreat. Averell sent Gibson's battalion after them up the pike, together with one section of Ewing's battery. But parts of all the regiments joined in the pursuit, and Averell was able to halt his command on the top of Spring Creek Mountain, overlooking the Big Levels of Greenbrier. This was the evening after the battle, Friday, November 6, 1863.

Successful in Retreat

He tried to hold back the pursuit so that Duffie might cut them off at Lewisburg, but that was not to be. They got through Lewisburg and on towards Union on the way to Dublin, by a matter of minutes, and were able to cut a timber blockade in the road.

We Confederates never had any luck in West Virginia after the battle of Droop Mountain. It was a losing fight from that time on. We had given Averell a defeat at White Sulphur Springs the summer before, but with that exception, Averell never lost a game. He was allowed to continue in command until the 23rd day of September, 1864, with the most brilliant record for success and efficiency that was ever accorded to a general in a campaign, when

at Lewisburg

first week of November, ordered General Duffie to march at 2 p. m. November 7 at Lewisburg, and Duffie marched from Kanawha, 120 miles. Averell had been from Beverly and had 110 miles to go. Averell reached Lewisburg on Saturday, November 7, at 2 p. m., and found that Duffie had got there at 10 a. m.

Sunday they started from Beverly and came over Cheat Mountain by way of Cheat Bridge, and marched by Camp Bartow, where they left the Staunton and Parkersburg turnpike and took the road leading by Greenbank to Huntersville. Outside of some apprehension from brushwhackers, they saw no sign of the rebel army until they got to Greenbank and from there one they drove the pickets before them.

Reach Huntersville

They reached Huntersville on Wednesday at noon and there Averell heard that Col. W. P. Thompson with the 19th Virginia cavalry, was at Marlins Bottom, at the Greenbrier bridge. Huntersville was the county seat, and while the pike between the Levels and the county seat ran by Marlins Bottom where the river was bridged, all persons attending court on horseback from the Levels, when the river could be forded turned to left at Shephen Hole Run and rode by the Beaver Creek route. They saved by this about six miles—the distance from Marlins Bottom to Huntersville. Marlins Bottom is now called Marlinton. So on Wednesday there was a horse race. Averell sent the 14th Pennsylvania cavalry and the 3rd West Virginia Mounted Infantry down Beaver Creek to cut off Thompson at Shephen Hole Run, and sent the 2nd and 8th West Virginia mounted Infantry to Marlinton with Ewing's battery, but Thompson left in a hurry and cut a barricade of trees across the road on Price Hill, and beat the Federals to Shephen Hole Run and joined up with the Confederate troops in the Levels and there turned and stopped the advance. Averell, at Huntersville, got word in the night time from his command at Marlinton and from Shephen Hole Run, that Thompson had escaped the trap.

Join at Mill Point

Averell moved his Huntersville army down Beaver Creek, Thursday, starting at 3 a. m., and reaching Mill Point at 8 a. m. He had ordered the colonel in charge of the Marlinton army to cut out the barricade and join him at Mill Point, and both wings of the army arrived at the same time. The effect of this was to put the Confederates in motion and they retired from the plains around Hillsboro to the heights overlooking that town, and erected embankments and fortifications on the brow of the mountains overlooking the Levels where the pike tops the mountain going south. It is exactly at the point that the tourist having traveled north through the three miles of sand on the flat top of Droop Mountain, comes in sight all at once of the garden spot of West Virginia spread out some fifteen hundred feet below him. It is a breath taking experience.

Averell says that the reason that he did not attack on Thursday when he came upon the Confederates in the Levels was that he was

cripples.

for no reason, so far as history can discover, he was summarily dismissed from his command. He openly charged that it was to make room for some favorite in the make-up of the army.

Quits Command

His last official communication to his command closed with these words: "I would rather serve in your ranks than leave you, but I am only permitted to say farewell."

During his command with the Confederate rangers lasting from May 16, 1863, to September 23, 1864, he fought twenty battles.

That is the outline of the Battle of Droop Mountain. We most earnestly insist that if this sketch is in any wise in error that the historian or veteran will immediately write to us and we will argue it out.

Here is the panorama that would have been presented to an observer standing on the brow of the mountain on the battlefield just before the battle began: To the east, 14th Pennsylvania regiment; to the northeast, Keeper's battery; to the north, Ewing's battery, the 10th West Virginia, and Gibson's battalion; to the northwest, behind the timber and in the sinks and hollows of the land, the 2nd, 3rd and 8th West Virginia regiments, lying on their arms, every fourth man holding horses, all waiting for the sound of battle. To the west the timber forest through which the 28th Ohio and the company of cavalry were sent upon the rear. All the Levels' homes were occupied that day by the women and children. Nearly all the non-combatant men were hiding in the woods.

Juanita Dilley
Clover Lick
Pocahontas County

IMPORTANT SERVICES OF THE STATE GUARDS TO
THE UNION

Chapter 4

These soldiers were not pensioned or rewarded like the rest of the army. Yet his services were of great peril and importance. They were in service about fourteen months.

In April 1864 the state guards were organized and took charge of the danger zone in West Virginia and in May 1864 the entire force of the regular army of West Virginia was on the move into Virginia to report to General Hunter at Staunton. From that time to the end of the war this regular army fought east of the mountains.

The policy of West Virginia during the last year of the war was given over entirely to the state guards. Yet they have been ignored. Most of the southern states have taken very good care of destitute southern veterans. But very few of these from Pocahontas ever received a pension.

These guards had all the standing of regular sworn defenders wore a uniform, and were authorized by law to lay down their lives for the Union.

Pocahontas County - State Guards - Adjustant or mustering officers;

Claiborne Pierson - Comm. August 8, 1861

John Sharp - Commissioned September 30, 1863

Captain Samuel Young's company

compiled from roll dated February 14, 1865

Captain Samuel Young - commissioned as Captain August 29, 1864

Enlisted Men

Benjamin Arbogast - Sergeant

John H. Armstrong - Sergeant

Alexander Atchison (this name probably should be Adkison)

Ruben Buzzard (now spelled Bussard)

George Cochran
Thomas Cunningham
Jeremiah Dilley
Clark Dilley (in the Blue Book this name is listed as Martin C. but he was usually known as Clark)

William Gay
John Gibson
Jonathan Griffin
Jesse Gregory
Morgan Grimes
William Hannah
Aaron Kee
George Williams
John Kellison
William Kennison
Peter McCarty
William McCarty
George W. McKeever
Aaron Moore
Hanson Moore
Harrison Moore
John Moore
Washington Neff
Henry Pugh
Moffett Pugh
George Rogers
James L. Rodgers (Rogers is the way they all spell their name now)

Martin Sharp
Henry Sharp
John H. Simms
P. A. Smith
John U. Wanless
Milton Sharp
Columbus Silvey
William Simmons
-----Sines
Newton Wanless
William M. Wanless
Sheldon Hanrah

Captain Allen's Pocahontas Scouts
Captain I. Walton Allen - Commissioned
Captain of Pocahontas County Scouts to rank April 4, 1864
Enlisted men -

Benjamin H. Adkison
Allen Arbogast
D. M. Burgess
Clark Young
E. B. Carvey
John Grimes
Samuel Grant
Robert Green
Adam Gregory
George Griffin
Joseph Hannah
Michael Hass

Kane Hinkle
William Johnson
John McLaughlin
Joseph Rapp
Christopher Silva
John Slaten
David Sullivan
Marcus Waugh
Solomon Westfall
Jacob Weiford
Robert Wilkins
J. B. Wright
William Hannah

Probably not a complete list.

Joseph Gay was noted Confederate scout. His company took part in the battle of Duncan's Lane, but so far I have not been able to get a list of those in his company.

Walton Allen was a sworn in Union soldier, but did not always conduct himself in an honorable way. In fact, he was one of the most unlawful of the bushwhackers, shooting at people who were his nearest neighbors. People who had befriended him many times, stealing when ever he found food, horses etc., that he wished to have. He shot and wounded Hugh McLaughlin. Before the war he had stayed over night many times at the McLaughlin home and had partaken of their hospitality. Things like this that were done by him and others did more than anything else to deepen the hatred the Confederates of this county felt against the Yankees.

Allen's home is less than a mile from where I was born. I remember him well, and have been at his home many times. The old log house still stands and was used as a dwelling until about three years ago.

I'm afraid he never was able to win back the respect of his neighbors, for even to this day people of this section of the county have very little good to say about him. Almost every one can tell of some misdeed he did such as shooting at some member of their family, stealing a cow or horse, drinking the milk out of their dairys. It was just unfortunate for the Federals that a man like that should be put in a position to do things like that. Of course many of the soldiers practiced this bushwhacking, but none are spoken of with so much bitterness as Walt Allen is.

Juanita S. Dilley
Clover Lick, W. Va.
Pocahontas County
June 27, 1940
Chapter 4 section 4

NANCY HART THE CONFEDERATE SPY SPENT HER LAST DAYS
IN POCAHONTAS COUNTY

In Roane County, during the Civil War, was a band of Guerillas who were not regular soldiers and to this band belonged Perry Connelly. Many deaths were blamed to him and it became a matter of prime importance with the Union forces to get rid of Connelly. To this same band belonged Nancy Hart. She was a girl in her twenties, black eyed, of medium height, of modern education, very active and very beautiful. She was a Confederate bred in the bone. She was the eyes of this local army. Connelly's death caused the little army to disintegrate and the soldiers found their way into the regular Confederate army, but Nancy Hart continued to be of great service to the army as a spy.

She was captured and held as a spy in the jail at Summersville. After a time the soldiers guarding her grew careless and underestimated the danger of their charge. She was allowed some freedom about the jail yard, and she talked freely to the soldiers. One night she approached one of the sentinels and engaged him in conversation. She was allowed to examine a pistol that he carried. When she secured the pistol she shot him and made her escape. She fled to the mountain wilderness and she was not taken again.

Nancy Hart married Joshua Douglas, and they settled in